Message Text

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FOR S/S, EUR, AND SY ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MARR, PO

SUBJECT: GOP INVITES SECRETARY VANCE TO STOP IN PORTUGAL ON RETURN FROM MIDDLE EAST; LAJES BASE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: LISBON 1092

- 1. FOREIGN MINISTER MEDEIROS FERREIRA SUMMONED ME EVENING OF FEB. 9. SAID HIS STAFF HAD JUST INFORMED HIM OF SECRETARY VANCE'S REFUELING STOP IN AZORES FEB 15, AS WELL AS POSSIBILITY SECRETARY COULD STOP IN AZORES ON RETURN FLIGHT FEB 21. BOTH HE AND PRIME MINISTER WILL BE OUT OF COUNTRY FEB 15, BUT HE WOULD ISSUE INSTRUCTIONS TO THE MINISTER OF REPUBLIC IN THE AZORES (REFTEL) TO GREET THE SECRETARY ON HIS ARRIVAL.
- 2. FONMIN SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO ISSUE A CORDIAL INVITATION TO THE SECRETARY TO STOP IN LISBON ON HIS RETURN TRIP. GOP WOULD BE DELIGHTED IF HE COULD SPEND A DAY HERE, BUT WOULD BE PLEASED AS WELL IF THE STOP WERE ONLY TECHNICAL. LATTER AT LEAST WOULD GIVE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A BRIEF CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 01117 091945Z

CONVERSATION.

3. FONMIN ADDED THAT A MEETING MIGHT BE PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME SINCE, AS WE KNEW, GOP WAS DEVELOPING ITS POSITION ON LAJES BASE NEGOTIATIONS. THE AZORES REGIONAL GOVERNMENT PLANNED TO PROPOSE AN EXTENSIVE LIST OF DEMANDS. GOP DID NOT WISH THE NEGOTIATIONS TO

FAIL AND THEREFORE WANTED TO AVOID PRESENTING USG WITH UNREALISTIC PROPOSALS. A CONVERSATION WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE COULD BE SET THE PARAMETERS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND ENABLE GOP TO DEVELOP ITS POSITION ON A REALISTIC BASIS. WHILE HE DID NOT SAY SO, MEDEIROS FERREIRA IMPLIED THAT ONE PURPOSE OF THE CONVERSATION WOULD BE TO GIVE THE GOP ADDED LEVERAGE IN SCALING DOWN AZOREAN ASPIRATIONS.

4. I TOLD FONMIN I WOULD CONVEY HIS INVITATION TO DEPARTMENT AND GIVEN HIM A REPLY ASAP. CARLUCCI

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TAGS: PINT, MARR, PO, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (FERREIRA, MEDEIROS)

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